

Claiming:

1) A method for assigning labor to a phase of a project while staying within available fees comprising the steps of:

- 5 a) providing a general purpose computer for processing data;
- b) inputting the available fees;
- c) determining the direct labor derived from available fees, profitability, overhead, and expenses;
- d) inputting the percentage of fee assigned to each phase of a project;
- 10 e) determining the labor amount for the phase by multiplying the direct labor by the percentage of the project assigned to the phase;
- f) inputting the staff members assigned to each phase;
- g) inputting the percentage of a project phase assigned to each staff member;
- h) inputting the billing rate for each staff member;
- 15 i) determining the labor rate for each staff member by multiplying the staff member's hourly rate by the phase percentage assigned to that staff member;
- j) determining the total labor rate for all staff members assigned to a project phase by adding all labor rates for the staff assigned to the project phase; and
- k) calculating the total number of staff hours per phase by dividing the labor amount by the
20 total labor rate.

2) The method for assigning labor of claim 1, further comprising the step of calculating the hours per phase assigned to each staff member by multiplying the staff member's phase percentage by the total staff hours per phase.

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3) The method for assigning labor of claim 2, further comprising the step of calculating the hours per day that a staff member is assigned to a project phase by:

- a) determining the net working days available for the phase from the start date and the end date of the phase by:

- i) inputting the start and the end date for the phase
- ii) evaluating the number of total days in a phase;
- iii) splitting the total number of days into months;
- iv) testing for holidays in each month;
- 5 v) determining if any holidays fall on weekends;
- vi) stripping all weekday holidays; and
- vii) stripping all weekends; and
- b) dividing the total hours per phase assigned to that staff member by the net working days.

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